


City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JUNE 22, 2005

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DONATION OF TWELVE SURPLUS GAS MONITORS TO THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF FIRE PROGRAMS

ISSUE: Resolution authorizing the donation of twelve surplus gas monitors to the Virginia Department of Fire Programs.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council adopt the attached resolution authorizing the City Manager to donate twelve surplus gas monitors, including ancillary equipment, to the Virginia Department of Fire Programs (Attachment 1).

DISCUSSION: The Virginia Department of Fire Programs has requested that surplus gas monitors, previously used by Alexandria's firefighters, be donated to their department (Attachment 2). These monitors will be used by the department's division chiefs to monitor gases and to carry out training exercises, which will benefit, in particular, many small cities and rural communities throughout the Commonwealth.

Purchased by the Fire Department between 1998 and 2001, the surplus gas monitors are still useful, but can detect only three different types of gases. In addition, higher maintenance expenditures for the older monitors forced the Fire Department to consider obtaining newer monitors. In 2004, the Fire Department acquired thirteen new gas monitors, an equipment upgrade, that can detect four different gases. The new monitors were purchased to better protect and safeguard the public as well as firefighters who must respond to and deal with accidental and man-made hazardous materials emergencies. The donation of these monitors also helps build good will between the City and the Virginia Department of Fire Programs.

FISCAL IMPACT: While the monitors have no remaining value to the City, these monitors do have value to the State. In addition, as noted on Attachment 2, the Virginia Department of Fire Programs has agreed to retain and maintain the monitors, which ensures that the equipment will be used to serve the public.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Proposed Council Resolution.

Attachment 2: Letter to Fire Captain Briant Atkins from Bert Robey (forwarded to Fire Chief Gary Mesaris), Virginia Department of Fire Programs, January 28, 2005.

STAFF:

Gary Mesaris, Fire Chief

Virginia Lester, Fiscal Officer

John North, Battalion Chief

Briant Atkins, Fire Captain, Hazardous Materials Team, Fire Station 202

RESOLUTION NO. ____

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Fire Programs administers the Fire Programs Fund to improve volunteer and salaried fire service operations in eligible counties, cities, and towns; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Fire Programs has allocated approximately \$2.5 million to the City of Alexandria since the inception of the Fire Programs Fund on July 1, 1985; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria City Council recognizes the importance of these grant monies, which have allowed the Fire Department to upgrade fire-service training and equipment; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Fire Programs has requested that surplus gas monitors be donated to their agency and used by their agency to monitor for gases and to conduct state-training emergency exercises in jurisdictions throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Department acquired new state-of-the-art gas monitors in 2004, and twelve surplus gas monitors are now available; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Chief has recommended that twelve surplus gas monitors be conveyed to the Virginia Department of Fire Programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution authorizes the City Manager to convey twelve of the Fire Department's surplus gas monitors to the Virginia Department of Fire Programs.

Adopted April 28, 2005

Mayor
City of Alexandria

ATTEST:

City Clerk



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Virginia Department of Fire Programs

Adam K. Thiel
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Aubrey W. Hyde, Jr.
CHIEF DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Division 2 Office - Orange
205 Caroline Street
P. O. Box 47
Orange, VA 22960-0777
Phone 540/672-1277
Fax: 540/672-1560

January 28, 2005

Captain Briant Atkins
Alexandria Fire Department

Briant:

On behalf of the Virginia Department of Fire Programs I am requesting that the Alexandria Fire Department consider the Virginia Department of Fire Programs when disposing of the 12 Industrial Scientific multi gas monitors and related calibration equipment. The monitors will be used by the agency to equip the seven Division Chiefs to assist the local fire departments with gas monitoring as requested and to assist with training in Hazardous Materials classes. The monitors will be retained and maintained by the agency and will not be given to other departments.

We appreciate the Alexandria Fire Department considering us when these monitors are disposed of. They will be a great help as we try to provide training and service to the many fire departments around the state. Please let me know if you have any questions or I can be of further help to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bert".

Bert Roby
Division Chief
VA Department of Fire Programs

cc: file

RESOLUTION NO. 2157

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Fire Programs administers the Fire Programs Fund to improve volunteer and salaried fire service operations in eligible counties, cities, and towns; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Fire Programs has allocated approximately \$2.5 million to the City of Alexandria since the inception of the Fire Programs Fund on July 1, 1985; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria City Council recognizes the importance of these grant monies, which have allowed the Fire Department to upgrade fire-service training and equipment; and

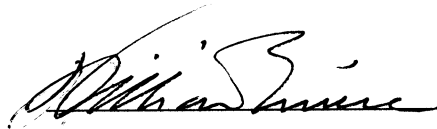
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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution authorizes the City Manager to convey twelve of the Fire Department's surplus gas monitors to the Virginia Department of Fire Programs.

ADOPTED: June 28, 2005



WILLIAM D. EUILLE

MAYOR

ATTEST:


Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC City Clerk